

**From:** [Beth Jones, expat in Austria](#)  
**To:** [E-OHPSCA2713.EBSA](#)  
**Subject:** Thank you for supporting birth control access for all women  
**Date:** Friday, August 05, 2011 9:51:44 AM

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Dear Kathleen Sebelius, Secretary of Health & Human Services,

I highly commend the Department of Health & Human Services' landmark decision requiring health insurers to cover the full cost of contraception, with no co-pay, beginning in August 2012.

This policy places a much-needed importance on women's health that is too-often not a priority in health care policy. Birth control is a critical part of preventive care, and making contraception available to all women, regardless of their insurance or ability to pay for it, will significantly reduce long-term health care costs associated with unplanned pregnancies.

Thank you for finally prioritizing women's basic health care needs. My outrage at Viagra's \*instant\* coverage as soon as it hit the market while women's contraception options remained off the table has never abated. Now I can calm down (a bit) ... Thanks again.

Sincerely,

Beth Jones, expat in Austria

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